

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application and claims 1 and 3-10 stand rejected

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and accepting the formal drawings. Additionally, Applicants thank the Examiner for considering all the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 5, 2005.

Claim 1 is amended herewith to clarify the features recited therein. This amendment is supported by, at least, page 1, lines 13-17 and lines 29-33 and page 3, lines 10-11.

Allowable Subject Matter Status of the Claims

The Examiner has objected to claim 2, indicating this claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate all the features recited in claim 2. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit claim 1 is in condition for immediate allowance.

Specification Objection

The Examiner objected to the specification as lacking headings in accord with U.S. practice.

Applicants respectfully submit the substitute specification submitted herewith obviates this objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner contends the phrase "said pull cord" of claim 10 is unclear because claim 1 makes reference to two pull cords.

Applicants submit the present amendment to claim 10 obviates this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-7 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shennib et al. (US 6,546,108).

Applicants respectfully submit this rejection is moot as claim 1 has been amended to incorporate all the features of allowable claim 2.

Thus, Applicants submit claim 1 is allowable for at least this reason. Additionally, Applicants submit claims 3-7 and 10 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shennib in further view of Neilson (US 6,529,609).

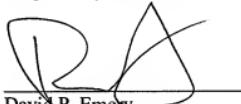
Applicants submit claims 8 and 9 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1, which is allowable for the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



David P. Emery
Registration No. 55,154

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 31, 2008